

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.

: 10/537,366

Confirmation No.

Applicant

: Roger Braun et al.

Filed

June 2, 2005

TC/A.U.

Examiner

: 05-374 Docket No. Customer No.: 34704

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance Applicants' continued duty of disclosure, the following documents are brought to the Examiner's attention:

European Patent Document 1 229 181

German Patent Document 102 12 324

German Patent Document 297 03 962

International Publication No. WO 01/94721

International Publication No. WO 02/063114

A listing on Form PTO-1449 is enclosed along with a copy of the above-mentioned documents.

The undersigned submits the above-identified references for independent consideration by the Examiner and does not make any admission that these references are or are not material to the present invention or that these references are or are not prior art with respect to the present invention.

No fee is believed to be due as a result of this submission. Should the Commissioner determine that a fee is due, he is hereby authorized to charge said fee to Deposit Account No. 02-0184.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger Braun et al.

Barry L. Kelmachter

BACHMAN & LaPOINTE, P.C.

Req. No. 29,999

Attorney for Applicants

Telephone: (203)777-6628 ext. 112

Telefax: (203)865-0297 Email: docket@bachlap.com

Date: August 29, 2005

I, Nicole Motzer, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on August 29, 2005.

O' 1 2005 #

TE TRADE

PTO/SB/08A (08-03) Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

Sheet 1

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known			
Application Number	10/537,366		
Filing Date	June 2, 2005		
First Named Inventor	Roger Braun et al.		
Art Unit			
Examiner Name			
Attorney Docket Number	05-374		

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Document Number Number-Kind Code ^{2 (f known)}	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	 	US-			
	ļ				
		US-			
		US-		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
		US-			
-		US-			
		US-			

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages	
		Country Code ³ "Number ⁴ "Kind Code ⁵ (<i>if known</i>)	MM-DD-YYYY		Or Relevant Figures Appear	Т
		EP 1 229 181 A1	08-07-2002	Steinwender		
		DE 102 12 324 A1	10-09-2003	Kettler		
		DE 297 03 962 U1	06-05-1997	Witex AG		
_		WO 01/94721 A1	12-13-2001	Knauseder		
		WO 02/063114 A1	08-15-2002	Steinwender		

Examiner	" "	Date	
Signature		Considered	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.